

133. MOTACILLA LUGUBRIS, Temm.

134. MOTACILLA SULPHUREA, Bechst. Grey Wagtail.

135. LANIUS MERIDIONALIS, Temm. Southern Shrike.

136. LANIUS PERSONATUS, Temm. Masked Shrike.

137. CORVUS FRUGILEGUS. Rook.

Near Jaffa.

138. ALAUDA ARBOREA, L. Woodlark.

139. PICUS SYRIACUS, Hempr. & Ehrenb. Syrian Woodpecker.

140. COLUMBA TURRICOLA, Bp.?

Apparently the bird so described by Bonaparte from Italy and Persia, having the back and rump not white, but of a pale lead-colour, and being rather smaller than our Rock Dove. Shot at Jericho.

141. PLUVIANUS ÆGYPTIUS, Temm.

Shot by Mr. Herschell in the Jordan valley.

142. ANAS ACUTA, L. Pintail Duck.

Shot by Mr. Herschell in the dry ravine of the brook Kedron.

143. LARUS GELASTES, Temm.

Taken at Jaffa.

XXXI.—*Ornithology in the International Exhibition.*

WE deem it advisable, while it is yet in the power of our readers to test the truth of our remarks, to give, as far as we can, an account of what pertains to Ornithology in the International Exhibition. We are sensible that if we deferred the notice to our next Number we should be able to render it more complete; for though we have taken some trouble about the matter, it is impossible that we can have seen everything relating to our science that is contained between the two monstrous domes of Brompton; indeed, some of the very objects entered in the Catalogues have hitherto escaped our search. But, on the other hand, we believe that by delaying this paper until the close of the Exhibition we should be depriving it of much that will

interest our readers, and, perhaps, make it of value to future ornithologists as a contemporary record of the things shown.

As the magnificent picture-galleries of the building first attract the attention of visitors, so we may as well begin by noticing the treatment ornithology receives at the hands of painters. Here we feel we are treading on dangerous ground; but since we do not pretend to speak as critics of art, and 'The Ibis' bears not the impress of authority from Her Majesty's Commissioners, perhaps our remarks may be understood to be the plain statement of our opinion as ornithologists. To be brief, birds do not play an important part in the pictures exhibited, and, with a few brilliant exceptions, we are sorry to say they are not treated as if the artists had paid attention to some of the very simplest points of their structure. Thus, in Mr. G. Cole's large picture of "Pride and Humility" (British Division, No. 603), the arrangement of the wing-quills of the strutting Turkey-cock (though the whole bird is admirably outlined and coloured) is inverted, the inner web of the first primary overlapping the outer web of the second, and so on. Mr. J. Webbe's "White Owl" (No. 598), a portrait very true to nature in general expression, and a picture, we are told, which has been highly lauded by one of our most celebrated judges of art, is clothed to all appearance, not in feathers, but in locks of wet wool, giving the bird somewhat the look of a sheep on a rainy day. Even an artist so great as Sir Edwin Landseer does not always succeed in rendering the effect of plumage, as witness the Wild Swan in his magnificent "Bolton Abbey" (No. 407), where the beautifully soft feathers of the breast are so indifferently represented as to give one at first sight the idea of the bird having been plucked. But, in his "Defeat" (No. 406), the soaring Eagle against the pale glow of the dawn seems to come as near perfection as possible. Of Mr. Wolf's skill the readers of 'The Ibis' require no assurance. The "Sir Joshua" of animal-painters pays the country which has so long been his domicile the compliment of exhibiting among her artists, and, high as his two works are hung, "The Tale (tail) of a Teal" (No. 523) and "The Ptarmigan's Haunt" (No. 585) will, we are certain, catch the eye of every ornithologist that enters the gallery. We do not express any opinion as to their artistic merits, though we believe good

judges find no fault with them on that score, but as pictures of bird-life they are unapproached by anything we have seen in the Exhibition. Of the "Sea Piece" (No. 1451), by Mr. H. Gätke of Heligoland, we can also speak highly, having with some difficulty discovered its abiding-place at the end of the print-gallery. It is very good, and the Gannets in the foreground are painted with great accuracy, showing this artist to be as good an interpreter of nature with the pencil, as many of our readers already know him to be with the pen.

In the Foreign department ornithological pictures are rare, and we have not met with any deserving high praise from our point of view. We regret to find nothing from the easel of Herr Ferdinand von Wright, a Finnish artist, whose works are well known and appreciated in his own country, in Sweden, and in Germany. This gentleman, from the specimens we have elsewhere seen of his painting, has a remarkable gift for painting Owls; and in this particular though somewhat limited sphere, even Mr. Wolf would find him a rival hard to beat. Norway possesses two painters who draw their subjects from the bird-world, but we cannot congratulate either of them on having attained great success. The "Partridge and Young" (Foreign Division, No. 1425) of Herr Printz is but tame, while Herr Böe's four ornithological pictures (Nos. 1414, 1443, 1447, and 1448) seem studies rather of stuffed than of living birds. Thus we conclude our list of works in which ornithology is illustrated by the "shapes and forms of art divine."

In other departments of the Exhibition where figures of birds are introduced, either alone or as accessory ornaments, we find them generally represented conventionally, and therefore in a manner distasteful to the naturalist, rather than with any regard to accuracy. Yet that this is by no means essential to the requirements of either beauty or utility is shown by at least one notable exception—an ecclesiastical lectern of carved oak, in the Mediæval Court (Class 30, No. 5659), the work of the Rev. R. S. Baker, representing a White-tailed Eagle, studied from life, which only wants an indication of the feet-scales to be as perfect an image of the bird, as it is a handsome and serviceable piece of church-furniture.

It will no doubt be in the memory of many of our readers that about a year ago there was published in the newspapers a memorial, addressed to Her Majesty's Commissioners for the International Exhibition, and bearing the signatures of about a score of naturalists—some the most eminent in their particular lines that the country produces. This document requested the “establishment of a class solely devoted to articles illustrating the various methods of preserving zoological and botanical specimens.” To it the Commissioners replied, through their Secretary, that the arrangement of the classes being then settled, it was too late to make any alteration therein, but that they would so far yield to the prayer of the memorialists as to establish a “subclass” for the reception of such specimens. Accordingly the visitors to Brompton who will take the trouble of scaling the almost alpine heights of the central tower in the Exhibition Building will have presented to their breathless gaze the collected results of this memorial, in the shape of various stuffed birds and beasts, divers trays of shells and fossils, and sundry sea-weeds displayed on cartridge-paper, side by side with books, maps, diagrams and globes, school-fittings and furniture, wax-dolls, toys and games! We must confess, after a rather minute examination of these specimens, termed in the Official Catalogue “Illustrations of Elementary Science,” that we honestly thank the Commissioners for placing this exhibition of the art of taxidermy at an elevation so lonely and so inaccessible; for we hope it may thereby escape the notice and the criticisms of our brother-naturalists from abroad. A more sorry show it is scarcely possible to conceive; for the specimens contributed by Messrs. Bartlett and Son, good as they are—especially the case of gorgeous *Psittacidæ*—hardly come up to what might have been expected of the skilful restorer of the Dodo, and altogether fail to cover the shortcomings of the rest of the collection. Mr. Ward shows an albino *Colymbus septentrionalis*, which we have some hesitation in considering “unique,” as he labels it; and Mr. Wilson has two birds fairly stuffed; but of the otherworks exhibited the less said the better. In the exercise of common charity we refrain from naming those “naturalists,” chiefly of the metropolis, who have here shown so small an appreciation of nature. It is only right to say that Mr. John

Hancock, whose magnificent groups of birds justly attracted so much attention when displayed in the central transept of the old Crystal Palace, does not send anything. The story goes that this gentleman applied for the room necessary to contain some subjects he had executed, but that his application was met with the stipulation that he should reduce by one-third the space he asked for. Now as nature, in forming large birds, such as Eagles and Swans, unfortunately did not take into consideration the possible requirements of even International Commissioners, the demand was equivalent to a refusal, and consequently the public have lost the pleasure of once more gazing on Mr. Hancock's achievements. A similar reason also, we believe, deterred Mr. Leadbeater from exhibiting. We must beg continental ornithologists, however, to give us credit for the assertion that this country has other bird-stuffers, both amateurs and professionals, who are in the habit of turning out specimens far more beautiful than those by which, as far as the United Kingdom is concerned, ornithology is so badly represented in the Exhibition.

Though, as we have just above stated, the British display of bird-stuffing has been collected in one subclass, it is very much the contrary with colonial and foreign specimens. These are scattered about as irregularly as in 1851; some, indeed, can scarcely be said to be classed at all. A good proportion of our numerous dependencies send stuffed birds, though with what particular object they appear in an Industrial Exhibition it might be hard to say,—unless it be to show the raw materials of the process by which ornithologists may be manufactured. Nevertheless we are far too thankful for what is thus put within our reach to cavil thereat; besides, many of the colonial consignments comprehend objects of great scientific interest. In noticing them we shall follow the order in which they are arranged in the first edition of the Catalogue.

To begin with our colonial possessions, the General Committee of South Australia, through Mr. Henry Jones, show a number of birds (No. 2) moderately well mounted in cases, containing, among others, a specimen of that rare Accipitrine, the *Gypoictinia melanosternon* (Gould, B. of Austr. i. pl. 20), the only example

now, we believe, in this country, since the removal of Mr. Gould's type to Philadelphia. There are also four drawings representing the nest of the Mallec-bird of South Australia (*Leipoa ocellata*), and a stuffed example of the bird alongside. The drawings are not of very great artistic skill, but every additional record of the eccentric nidification of this tribe of birds is worthy of comment.

Western Australia is contented to exhibit some Emeu's eggs, which we suppose may be taken to be those of Mr. Bartlett's newly recognized species or variety, *Dromæus irroratus* (P. Z. S. 1859, p. 205, and 1860, pp. 205, 211), especially as the tippets and muffs manufactured of this bird's feathers present the well-defined terminal spot of that species. From the Bahamas, the Cape of Good Hope, and Ceylon, we have failed to discover any ornithological specimens, except some edible birds'-nests (of *Collocalia fuciphaga*, we presume) from the last-mentioned colony. India sends only bundles and fans of Peacock's feathers, and so does not do much to elucidate her still imperfectly known Ornithology. Jamaica and Mauritius are equally unrepresented as far as ornithology goes. The Commissioners for Natal show, among other specimens of natural history, four cases (No. 7) set up by Mr. Ward of London, containing a fine series of the birds of this colony, prepared under the superintendence of their Hon. Secretary, Dr. R. J. Mann. Amongst these we may mention, as particularly worthy of notice, an example of *Spizaetus zonurus*, of which Mr. Gurney has lately spoken in these pages (see *antea*, p. 150); *Bubo lacteus*, not previously known to occur in Natal; and the large Wattled Goose (*Sarcidiornis regia*). New Brunswick exhibits nothing in our way. Newfoundland offers us, among others from the collection of the late Mr. W. H. Ellis, M.P.P., three cases of *Lagopus albus* (No. 1), containing a fine series of seventeen individuals, and exemplifying the autumn, winter, and summer plumages of that widelyspread and ever-changing species. From the same colony Mr. N. Norman sends a couple of fairly preserved birds (No. 16); and Mr. G. Ehlers also transmits a photograph (the specimen itself having been too much injured to admit of preservation) of a European Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola*), which was shot at an open spring near St. John's, on the 9th of January last, after some long-continued easterly winds. It is stated, in

a notice appended to the frame, that though the ground had been covered with snow for many weeks, the bird was in good condition, weighing $12\frac{3}{4}$ oz., which we believe to be above the average of English-killed examples. This fact is interesting as helping to prove that the tide of ornithic emigration across the Atlantic is not quite so one-sided as is often supposed. New South Wales exhibits four cases of birds. Three of them are placed so high that it is difficult to say what the species may be. But one of them (No. 434), as we are informed by the Provincial Catalogue, is exhibited by Lady Gipp (the birds having been mounted by Mr. Leadbeater), and the other two contain 120 specimens of small birds of the colony, exhibited by T. W. Crawley, Esq., of Sydney. In the fourth case a pair of the Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii*) are stationed, feeding a young bird in an open cup-shaped nest formed of moss! We will veil the name of the exhibitor of this ornithological marvel in the judicious obscurity which he would certainly covet, if he knew the untruthfulness to nature of which he has been guilty, merely remarking that the Parrots of this group breed in hollow trees. New Zealand is represented by two cases (No. 67), mounted by Mr. W. Bruce, and exhibited by Mr. Edward King, comprising the following species said to have been procured in the province of Auckland:—

Halcyon vagans.	Anthus novæ zeelandiæ.
Prothemadera novæ zeelandiæ.	Rhipidura flabellifera.
Anthornis melanura.	Chrysococcyx lucidus.
Xenicus longipes.	Platycercus auriceps?
Certhiparus senilis.	Carpophaga novæ zeelandiæ.
Miro toitoi.	Anas superciliosa.
Petroeca albifrons.	

The second case contains ten birds, amongst which we notice, besides several also contained in the first, *Athene novæ zeelandiæ*, *Eudynamys taitensis*, *Fuligula novæ zeelandiæ*, and *Rallus assimilis*.

From Nova Scotia, our old friend, Mr. A. Downs, sends a case of Game Birds and Wild Ducks (No. 5), including nothing very rare, but fully maintaining his high repute as a taxidermist. In Queensland, Mr. A. Hodgson exhibits one, and Mr. C. C. Macdonald of Cadargah three cases of birds (Nos. 90, 96, 97). Among

them we notice the *Menura alberti*, the beautiful *Pitta strepitans*, and several interesting Pigeons (*Lopholæmus antarcticus*, &c.). These have also been mounted (not too well) by Mr. Ward.

St. Vincent shows nothing ornithological. Tasmania produces feathers and an egg of her Emeu (Nos. 618, 624), three specimens of *Strix castanops*, and two others badly set up, contributed by Mr. W. Chatfield, and a few Penguins' skins, with a considerable assortment of fans and such-like ornaments made of feathers. Mrs. Crowther also exhibits a series of bird-skins that appear to have been selected for their brilliant colours.

Vancouver's Island sends a case of birds containing specimens of *Pyrranga ludoviciana*, *Turdus nævius*, *Hirundo thalassina*, *Sialia mexicana*, *Colaptes mexicanus*, *Picus ruber*, *Hedymeles melanocephalus*, and what we suppose must be *Bonasa umbelloides* (Baird, B. Am. pp. 630, 925).

So much for the British dependencies that have sent in their goods in time to be inserted in the Official Catalogue. But there are likewise several of the tardy arrivals that merit the ornithologist's attention. Victoria sends three glass cases containing birds well set up, but without the name of the artist or exhibitor. In one of them we recognize the fine *Athene strenua* (Gould, B. of Austr. i. pl. 35). Canada sends several cases of birds to illustrate her Ornis. These are exhibited by Mr. James Thompson of Montreal and Mr. S. W. Passmore of Toronto: The series of North-American *Anatidæ*, though not particularly well stuffed, nor including any great varieties, is very fair; and there is a Buzzard amongst the *Accipitres*, which is doubtless *Buteo insignatus* of Cassin. We have also to notice from British Guiana eight cases prepared (like those from Natal and Queensland) by Mr. Ward. This collection includes a good series of *Accipitres*, such as

<i>Buteo pterocles</i> .	<i>Micrastur brachypterus</i> .
„ <i>pæcilonotus</i> .	<i>Hypotriorchis femoralis</i> .
„ <i>melanops</i> .	<i>Ibycter ater</i> .
<i>Buteogallus nigricollis</i> .	„ <i>americanus</i> .
<i>Spizaëtus ornatus</i> .	<i>Circus maculosus</i> .

We observe in the same case an example of the American Peregrine (*Falco anatum*). If this is really a "Guiana-killed"

specimen, it is the most southern locality for this bird hitherto recorded. Messrs. A. and E. Newton have, however, noticed it in St. Croix (*Ibis*, 1859, p. 63), Mr. Cottle procured a specimen (now in the British Museum) in S. Nevis, and Mr. Salvin (*Ibis*, 1859, p. 219) records the occurrence of a "single example" at Dueñas; so it is not such a great step further south.

Of Foreign States (still following the arrangement of the Catalogue), Africa, whether Central or Western, is for once false to her old character, and has no ornithological wonder to show. Belgium and Brazil, China and Costa Rica, are equally devoid of objects to be here noticed. Denmark escapes only by some zoological drawings for educational purposes, exhibited by Herr J. C. Thornam (Subclass 29. B, No. 241).

The extensive area occupied by the French department contains several noteworthy objects to the ornithologist. Entering from Italy, a large series of well-mounted birds meets our eyes as they stand well arranged on the shelves to our left hand. There is, first (886), a series of the principal types of mammals and birds considered to be useful and hurtful to agriculture in France. These specimens are borrowed, we believe, from the galleries of the Jardin des Plantes. They are all correctly named and labelled, and were, as we are informed, selected for the purpose by M. Florent-Prevost, Aide-Naturaliste to the Museum of Natural History of that establishment,—a name well known in the literature of ornithology. The same gentleman exhibits (885) a very interesting series of the dried contents of the stomachs of the principal birds of France, arranged in order, with the object of showing the nature of their food. Each specimen is marked with the date at which it was obtained, and, as an accurate register has been kept of the birds' stomachs examined in this way for the last twenty-four years (of which a specimen page is shown below), the *résumé* gives a very fair notion of the nature of the sustenance of the birds of France in all seasons, and affords a base upon which they may be divided into the two catalogues of *utiles* and *nuisibles*. There is, besides, a collection of the *game* of the three different regions into which France is divided agriculturally, illustrated by specimens from the same source as those mentioned

above, and, we believe, selected by the same naturalist. Some of them are worth mentioning, but of course the classification is rather fanciful.

<i>Corn-region.</i>	<i>Wine-region.</i>	<i>Silk-region.</i>
<i>Alauda arvensis.</i>	<i>Columba palumbus.</i>	<i>Emberiza hortulana.</i>
<i>Turdus musica.</i>	„ <i>œnas.</i>	<i>Pterocles arenarius.</i>
<i>Perdix cinereus.</i>	<i>Coturnix dactylisonans.</i>	<i>Caccabis saxatilis.</i>
<i>Gallinula chloropus.</i>	<i>Caccabis rubra.</i>	<i>Bonasa europæa.</i>
<i>Anser ferus, &c.</i>		

These exhibitions are all classed in the Agricultural Section (Class 3). In the Class of Surgical Instruments (Class 17, No. 1747), M. Lefevre, a well-known French taxidermist, has some samples of his trade, but not much that calls for remark. The equally well-known E. Parzudaki (No. 1754) devotes his energies to beasts instead of birds.

The Société Impériale d'Acclimatation exhibit a series of stuffed specimens, intended to show the principal animals they are attempting to introduce into and acclimatize in France. We do not quite agree with our friends in the 'Gardeners' Chronicle' in considering acclimatization as a "chimera;" but we are inclined to think the term "chimerical" would be well applied to the idea of domesticating *some* of the birds which form part of the series. The essentially arboreal *Craces* and *Penelopæ* will require a very long course of modification before we induce them to breed in our poultry-yards; and the Society do not seem to get on well with *Lophophori*, since the single specimen exhibited is, we believe, the male received from the Zoological Society of London, which they have unfortunately lost.

In the French colonies, M. Belanger, Director of the Botanical Garden of St. Pierre in Martinique, exhibits a small series of the birds of that island, nicely mounted by Verreaux. The species, as far as we can recognize them without handling and comparison, are—

Margarops — ?	<i>Euphonia flavifrons.</i>
<i>Dendrocœa petcelia.</i>	<i>Saltator martinicensis.</i>
<i>Setophaga ruticilla.</i>	<i>Tiaris jacarini.</i>
<i>Thryothorus, sp.?</i>	<i>Loxigilla noctis.</i>
<i>Certhiola flavcola ?</i>	<i>Icterus bonanæ.</i>

Thamnophilus doliatus.	Tringoides macularius.
Tyrannus dominicensis ?	Tringa maculata.
Eulampis jugularis.	Rallus, sp.
„ holosericeus.	Porphyrio martinica.
Orthorhynchus — ?	Florida purpurea ?
Lampornis — ?	Egretta — ?
Chloroceryle alcyon.	Butorides virescens.
„ americana.	Ardea, sp.
Astur magnirostris.	Erismatura dominica.
Chamæpelis trochila.	„ rubida.
Ægialites — ?	Phalacrocorax — ?
Vanellus — ?	Sula fiber.

But we hope, through the assistance of our esteemed friend, M. Aubry Le Comte, Superintendent of the French Colonial Exhibition, to be able to make a more accurate examination of these birds, and a further special report thereon to ‘The Ibis.’

Germany, from whose standing-army of ornithologists we had hoped better things, is absolutely as unaviferous as Greece, unless a smoked Goose-breast from Mecklenburg-Schwerin and numerous piles of down quilts—so abhorred by the British tourist—be considered to form an exception. Yet the smart game-bags and neat bird-cages testify at least to the philornithic taste of the natives in one direction or another. We have not now the pleasure even of contemplating any of those caricatures of humanity by which Würtemberg contributed to the amusement of crowds in the old Exhibition. The Ionian Islands, through Signor Zanoni of Corfu, display some groups of birds, dusty and, we must add, disagreeable, which are perched aloft, exposed to all sorts of vicissitudes, as if the Septinsular delegates, in their would-be independence, scorned the “protecting power” even of a glass shade. Italy has nothing to show in our line, except some injected specimens of the auditory organs of birds, sent by Prof. Gaddi of Modena (Class 17, No. 1291); and neither Japan nor Madagascar, the Netherlands nor Norway, are any better. The guano of Peru may claim to be mentioned here; but Portugal and Rome have not even this questionable advantage. From Russia there is a fine series of *Tetraonidæ*, exhibited by Herr P. Oospensky (No. 591), which contains some interesting examples of the so-called *Tetrao medius*, the commonest, perhaps, of all

wild hybrids. Siam shows, among her commodities, edible birds' nests; but we have looked through Spain and Sweden without discovering as much ornithology as that. Switzerland exhibits the Grebe-skins for which her lakes have long been celebrated; while the United States and Uruguay complete the list, and add two more to the courts we have drawn blank while bird-hunting.

Perhaps it was not to be expected natural history should make any very great show on an occasion of this sort. Still, in a design so vast as an Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations, one would have thought that bird-stuffers would have evinced a greater desire to display their wares, if for no higher purpose than advertising them. We do not know, but we cannot help suspecting that at the last Exhibition no rewards were given to those who competed in taxidermy; and we have already alluded to the prevalent rumour that in the present case certainly no encouragement was held out to the professors of this craft. Yet it cannot be said that the art is altogether unworthy of notice; for if zoology be really a science, the different methods of preserving the objects which illustrate it—many of them, be it remembered, of daily increasing rarity—deserve attention; or if it be only a pastime, it is unquestionably a popular one, since almost every other house in town or country contains some stuffed beast, bird, or fish, and thus, on that ground also, such methods merit anything but neglect. Utilitarianism is not so rife in these days as to influence many persons by its sneers. There is, we know, no fear of our readers not agreeing with us in these general remarks; we are not, therefore, lecturing them; but we would urge them strongly, if another International Exhibition be ever talked of in London, to make sure, by timely activity, that Ornithology at any rate should not appear in the same unsatisfactory state as it now does at Brompton.

June 10, 1862.

XXXII.—*Recent Ornithological Publications.*

1. ENGLISH PUBLICATIONS.

“WHAT can a bird be that is not drawn from nature?” our readers may be inclined to ask, on seeing the title of Mrs. Black-